

ARGUMENTS/REMARKS

Applicants would like to thank the examiner for the careful consideration given the present application. The application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office action, and amended as necessary to more clearly and particularly describe and claim the subject matter which applicants regard as the invention.

Claims 2-6, 9, 11-19 and 21-22 remain in this application. Claims 1, 7-8, 10, and 20 have been previously canceled. Claims 23 and 24 are added without adding any new matter.

Claims 2-6, 9, 11-19, and 21-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Takano (U.S. 5,924,043). For the following reasons, the rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claim 21, as amended, recites:

a transmission power control step range changer for internally changing a variable power step amount of a transmission power control step based on both the transmission power control bit and the detected one or more of: the *change in the reception power of the received signal obtained by comparing the previous reception power with the current reception power*, the level variation cycle of the received signal due to fading, the *current transmission power of the distant station*, and the *current transmission power of said apparatus*;

(emphasis added) wherein the apparatus "internally increases or decreases a transmission power of a transmitted signal to the distant station by the changed power step amount in response to the transmission power control bit received from the distant station" (emphasis added).

Similarly, claim 22 recites

the apparatus having a transmission power control step range changing step which internally changes a variable power step amount of a transmission power control step based on both the transmission power control bit and the detected one or more of: the *change in the reception power of the received signal obtained by comparing the previous reception power with the current reception power*, the *current*

transmission power of the distant station, and the current transmission power of said apparatus

(emphasis added) with the apparatus “internally increasing or decreasing a transmission power of a signal transmitted to the distant station by the changed power step amount”. Takano fails to teach these limitations.

The Examiner argues that Takano teaches changing a step amount in response to a “mean value of previous values of the transmission power output by the mobile unit”. However, the claims have been amended to recited that it is the “current” power that is being utilized, not any mean value or past value. Accordingly, claims 21 and 22 are patentable over the reference.

New claims 23 and 24 are patentable over the references because, although they are similar to claims 21 and 22, respectively, the step value is not specified as changing based on the transmission power of the apparatus, and thus those claims are patentable over the reference as well. The remaining claims depend, directly or indirectly, upon one of the above discussed claims, and thus are patentable over the reference for at least the same reasons.

In consideration of the foregoing analysis, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and notice to that effect is hereby requested. If it is determined that the application is not in a condition for allowance, the examiner is invited to initiate a telephone interview with the undersigned attorney to expedite prosecution of the present application.

If there are any additional fees resulting from this communication, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, our Order No. 33220.

Respectfully submitted,
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